

PVRC NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 1997

From: [\[email protected\]](#) Fri Aug 29 22:58:25 1997
Date: Fri, 29 Aug 1997 00:02:59 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Dick Wilder (K3DI)"
To: [\[email protected\]](#)
Subject: PVRC Newsletter Sept 97

PVRC NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 1997

PVRC Meeting Calendar:

Wed weekly PVRC BWI breakfast 7:30 AM at Basil's Deli Port
on Elkridge Landing Rd. -W6AXX
Thu Sep 4 PVRC/NC meeting at Luna's in Ralaeigh at 6 PM.
Sun Sep 7 Meeting at the FARfest in Gaithersburg, MD. See below.
Mon Sep 8 First central meeting of the fall at Vienna, VA.
See directions last page.
Sat Sep 13 PA meeting at K3SWZ New Cumberland, PA. See below.
Tue Sep 16 NW meeting, Legends Restr, Frederick MD at 8:00 PM
Sat Sep 20 Open house at Dave's, WR3L, Essex. MD.
See directions below.
Mon Oct 13 Central meeting in Temple Hills, MD.
Directions are on the reference page (last page)

PVRC SILENT KEY:

We regret to report the passing of PVRC member Edmund C. Lynch, W5EQD about 1 1/2 years ago in Austin, Texas at the age of 95. This was reported to use by his care giver, Judith Pitman.

PVRC MEETING DURING GAITHERSBURG HAMFEST SEPT 7TH by Rich Boyd, KE3Q

PVRC will meet at the Gaithersburg hamfest at 11 AM on Sunday morning September 7th. The meeting will be held to the east side of the commercial buildings, under the big oak trees, in the "infield" behind the PVRCers who are tailgating there. This is the same spot we met last year. In previous years we had met on the WEST side of the commercial buildings...but last year we moved it to the opposite side from the old place. Repeat, we now meet on the EAST side of the commercial buildings, under the big oak trees.

PA-PVRC MEETING TO BE SEPT 13 NEAR HARRISBURG, PA by Glenn Kurzenknabe, K3SWZ [\[email protected\]](#), K3SWZ>NE3H

PVRC/PA will hold a meeting on September 13th at my home at 23 Carriage Road, New Cumberland, PA 17070-2302 West of Harrisburg. The time is 2:00 PM and snacks will be provided. This is only the second PA-PVRC meeting so we don't have a big formal meeting on the drawing board. Plan on the majority being social. We will be monitoring 146.580 simplex and 145.470 which is the Harrisburg Repeater. My phone is 717-774-1728. Please RSVP via the Dxcluster or land-line so that we can plan the refreshments. The directions to the meeting are:

Via Route 15:

Take Route 15 North past Gettysburg. In Camp Hill take Route 581 toward Harrisburg/York. Get off at the next exit which is Route 83 South --

York. Get off at Exit 18, not to be confused with 18A. At top of ramp..... (See below)

Via Route 83:

Take Route 83 North past York. Get off at Exit 18. There is construction north of York for about 2-3 exits. It is one lane each way..... At the end of the ramp..... (see below)

Turn left. Go just about 1 mile (You are on Route 114) Just as you crest a small blind hill turn right on Stetler Road. (Hard to see -- be careful). Turn left on Carriage Road (cement thing with "carriage wheel" in middle of street!) Go to end of Carriage Road.... I am #23 which is a white ranch house. Park along the street where you can. Carriage Road is a culdesac. Car pooling would be suggested although I have no idea what the attendance might be.

ERRATA. The PA-PVRC meeting minutes reported in the August issue were by Steve Cutshall, K3TZV. I use a CD-ROM to extract the correct spelling of names. It would help if I interrogate the database with the correct call-sign. - editor

OPEN HOUSE AT WR3L BALTIMORE SEP 20TH

Dave will be holding a PVRC open house on Saturday the 20th of September from noon until ... at 695 Rockaway Beach Ave, Baltimore. If you plan on attending, please message via packet, telephone [410-DX1-WR3L (391-9735)], or [\[email protected\]](#) so he can plan space and refreshments. But, if you forget to message him it is OK to come anyway. Dave has an improved station is looking for operators.

Directions:

Take 695 Golden Ring take 702 (left exit) continue about 3 miles, left on Turkey Point road. To end of Turkey point road, turn left on Roackaway Beach Ave and proceed about 1/4 mile to marked parking area. A note if you can come will help but is not necessary.

PVRC LOGO DISCUSSION by Rich Boyd, KE3Q

Starting with our logo search in 1993, one aspect of the discussion was how to represent the wide-area coverage of a contest club like ours. Some of us were uneasy, in 1993, when a logo was chosen that explicitly represented MD/DC/VA and excluded the other states that we reach into. Even at that time we had half a dozen or more active testers in eastern West Virginia and one or two in Delaware. As for Pennsylvania, the K3MQH VHF contest station was starting up, staffed primarily with PVRCers from Maryland, and there were other significant stations and ops in south central PA who we were recruiting.

In 1995 when W4MYA and I got to talking about the central Virginia guys coming into PVRC, followed by discussions with W4ZYT about tidewater Virginia, and knowing we had N4AF/K4PQL and some other PVRCers across the line in NC, we started seriously considering what we could do to include NC as a PVRC region. We began to consider changing our geographical center from the default that had been used for years, the "zero milestone in Washington, DC" to a point further south, specifically to include NC in PVRC.

In mid-1996 we began specifically discussing an "enhancement" to our logo to give WV/DE/PA/NC the recognition they deserve. I was reluctant to encourage a total rewording of the logo, remembering the sometimes, shall we say, "lively" discussion in 1993. And, our current logo has been quite successful and the club has embraced it by buying shirts, hats, badges, QSLs, mugs (have I forgotten anything?) with the logo on it. We have a much larger visibility now at Dayton and other hamfests...I think it's contributed to PVRC's stature...these things add the respect we get from other clubs and individual contesters, and helps attract new members, which helps us win. We didn't want to make the current logo obsolete by going with something totally different, so I reassured members at meetings, "No, we don't want to 'change' it; we just want to 'enhance' it a little." I suggested a change such as adding small compass points to the outside of the circle, small triangles just large enough to add PA at the top, DE on the right side, NC at the bottom, and WV on the left side. I made some attempts to contact KO4FM/W4CE, who had done the graphics work for the first logo. He's been very busy at work I'm told. The discussion continued for a year.

compliment K3IXD for taking the bull by the horns and working up some designs on his own, and I admit they modify the current logo less than my "compass points" idea, by staying within the circular design and enhancing what's inside the circle. I didn't see Ed's designs until the W4MYA meeting and had to admit they did the job and looked great. The NC region had even voted in favor of Ed's second design. The tidewater region, justifiably I think, said "Hey, aren't we going to get a chance to vote?" I assured them that I hadn't seen the designs myself even, and that Ed's effort was not an official PVRC effort, but one man's own effort, and that before anything was finalized all regions' input would be solicited.

That's where we are now. We solicit any designs in addition to Ed's or any other possible changes. I'll toss one of my own in at this point: Since the "Potomac Valley Radio Club" on the embroidered patches (on shirts for instance) doesn't come out very well, that sort of detail doesn't come out well, I suggest we change that to "PVRC" and make the letters as bold as possible, so that they come out well on an embroidered patch and, if we're in a hospitality suite at Dayton someone across the room can easily read the letters "PVRC" rather than a jumble of red white and blue thread that they see now. This would also de-emphasize the very local "Potomac Valley" aspect of our name, since we now cover a much wider region.

Several have suggested putting a map of our region inside the circle, from NC to PA and WV to DE. It seems to me that detail tends to get lost and clutter up a logo and we should stay as "graphic" as possible. It seems to me that keeping the current somewhat graphic, stylized diagram of DC in the center, with the Potomac running past it recognizes the PVRC's successful past, and is acceptable to keep, as a link to our roots. Adding the state letters, such as in Ed's design suggestion that the NC region "straw voted" for, seems to cover our expansion sufficiently. And the fact that the NC region guys seem to strongly endorse it is a very strong statement in favor of it, because we recognize the NC region is the farthest region from the traditional PVRC center. You NC guys are the ones we recognize are the ones it's hardest for us to make feel a part of the PVRC action, so if you guys like it that's good enough for me. And, by the way, we encourage you to keep giving us ideas on what we can do within PVRC to remain unified...we don't want the NC region or any region to feel isolated and remote from us. With our PVRC reflector, web page,

and an on-going effort to get members from diverse regions together from time to time, maybe we can keep building unity.

I think we should move as fast as possible on the logo so that we can place orders for logo items this fall, with the new logo. I'm pleased to note that some of the NC region guys are eager to get some of these items. So, before too much more of the fall goes by let's get everyone's input and finalize the logo enhancement.

DO WE WANT A REVISED PVRC LOGO? Time to vote by Ed Steeble, K3IXD

(The paper edition displayed the proposal #3 logo here. The border in all the proposals are the same as the present logo. The center of this proposal has an outline map of those states within 175 miles radius of our center in VA and two-letter state abbreviations of PA, WV, MD, VA, DE, and NC.)

Above are the proposals (Only #3 shown) I have in reference to my article in last month's PVRC newsletter. Also KE3Q, in an article elsewhere in this newsletter proposes we replace "Potomac Valley Radio Club" with PVRC in large, block letters. Below is the ballot. If you are a PVRC member, you can vote to keep the current logo or for one of the new ones and whether or not to replace "Potomac Valley Radio Club" with "PVRC." The voting closes on 3 September 1997. Your ballot can be cast by packet, email or US Postal service. I will post the results on packet, the PVRC reflector, and in the newsletter next month.

Editors note: As I reached my publication deadline, I found the file containing proposal #1 and #2 was bad and I did not have the art work. #3 scanned OK which is shown. #1 and #2 are the same as the present logo except WV, PA, DE, and NC are added in two configurations relative to the line that represents the Potomac River. All FOUR proposals use the same color scheme.

BALLET FOR PVRC LOGO:

Proposal #0 - keep the logo as it is,
Proposal #1 has the names of the states evenly spread around DC,
Proposal #2 has WV, VA, and NC below "the Potomac" line with PA, MD, and DE above "the Potomac",
Proposal #3 is a map that replaces "the Potomac" line and DC outline.
The outline map has two-letter abbreviations in red on each state.

Call _____,

PVRC member: Yes __, No __,

Select one logo: #0__; #1__; #2__; or #3__.

Keep the name in full __ or replace it with PVRC __.

email to [\[email protected\]](#) packet message to k3ixd>w3lpl or US mail to Ed Steeble, 14020 Celbridge Ct, Glenwood, Md 21738. Must be postmarked or date/time stamped by midnight, local time, 30 Sept. 97

PVRC/NC AUGUST 7TH MINUTES by Pete Soper KS4XG [\[email protected\]](#)

Site. The meeting was held at Luna's Pizza in Raleigh 6-7:30pm.

Attendees. AA4NC Will, KO4PY Brent, K4HA Bob, KS4XG Pete, K4MA Jim, N3QYE Jim, K4PB Alan, N4AF Howie, K4QPL Jim, N4CW Bert, KF4MOK Dave, WA4ZXA Jim, and Terry Floyd

Membership. This was the second meeting of Jim, WA4ZXA -- welcome to PVRC Jim! This was the first meeting of Brent Smith KO4PY who is a professor at NCSU and an avid supporter of the university club there, providing a lot of the points during last year's school competition within the Sweepstakes tests. This was the first meeting of Alan Harp K4PB, a super CW op with a nice station very close to AA4NC and K4HA. This was also the first meeting of Jim Jordan K4QLL who got involved with a Franklin county FD effort this year which reignited Jim's CW contesting interests and he's eager to get back into it. Welcome, KO4PY, K4PB, and K4QPL! The chapter membership is now seventeen.

Program. Club business and announcements N4CW asked about a meeting place for next month and everyone agreed that meeting again at Luna's would be fine. AA4NC announced that his station is available for the CQWW phone and you can reach Will at [\[email protected\]](#). K4MA is organizing a team for the NAQP phone contest -- contact Jim at [\[email protected\]](#) to join his team. WANTED: N3QYE (Jim at [\[email protected\]](#)) is looking for an operator manual for a Navy TBW4 transmitter which is the "amphibious model" transmitter designed to be used on landing craft.

Member activities. K4HA expects to take part in CQWW phone with K4MA at the N4ZC M/M station. N3QYE finished his graduate research and just needs to pound out the thesis to get his mind back on contesting full time -- Jim showed some pictures from his recent VHF contest effort in Pennsylvania. K4PB offered his station to N4CW for CQWW CW again this year. WA4ZXA has applied for vanity callsign K4ZAM, with K4ZPA as a second choice. KF4MOK is battling with Windows NT security (and Windows is winning) but hopes to get back to his packet/Internet gateway experiments soon as well as upgrading to General class. K4MA got an unusual inducement for a Thanksgiving visit to Atlanta, as wife Karen pointed out that the W4WA contest station down there might be available for the CQWW/CW test but, in the meantime he'll be working NAQP from home and is preparing for his Sweepstakes effort from the Caribbean. KS4XG set up an "antenna modeling factory" with a dual processor Pentium Pro box running NEC2 and Perl scripts under Unix which can perform about 15000 simulations a day, stepping antenna parameters a wee skoshin between each run -- With that it was possible to learn a lot about the behavior of quad antennas and get a feel for how different performance tradeoffs can be arranged. K4QPL had a blast during the recent NAQP/CW test and is eager take part in the WAE test. K4QPL asked about contest logging programs and how he can interface CT or TR with his TR4 (answer : "Magic") Jim was caught by the UPS strike but got a temporary loan of a paddle and tuner from N3QYE.

Station upgrades. K4HA is preparing to send the kids back to school and hopes to get back to station work then such as putting up a second tower and 40m beam. WA4ZXA has ordered a Cushcraft 40m rotatable dipole and expects to get it when the UPS truck can make the long trek from Greensboro to his house. The consensus is that the 40m dipole uses capacitive end loading for high efficiency with no traps. K4MA is ordering a chrome molly mast with a goal is still to get a 25G tower up

and running for the Fall contest season.

KS4XG is preparing to string the quad and finish a switch box this weekend. The cable trench is started and the tower ground system should be tied into the station ground within a few days. The goal is to get something on the air for WAE phone. An inverted L will cover 160 and this will be end fed with a tank circuit for temporary coverage of 80 and 40 meters while gain antennas are being dreamed up.

K4QPL just put up a G5RV. N4AF has closed on the 70+ acres of land near Chocowinity, with about 2/3 of it covered by trees and surrounding a 20+ acre cleared area. He's expecting to move some AB105 there and begin work on a new station soon while a house is built on the property, hoping to move there next Spring. (from notes of another meeting)

Next Meeting The next PVRC/NC meeting will be 6pm Thursday September 4th at Luna's in Raleigh. Directions to Luna's Pizza (3227 Avent Ferry Rd, 919 854 9600):

To get to the "Beltline" surrounding Raleigh, coming East on I40 follow the signs to Wade avenue, then pass the Blue Ridge Road exit and take the next exit, which puts you on the beltline going South (i.e. US1 south, going toward US64 and Sanford).

From the "Beltline" take the "Western Blvd, NC State, Downtown" exit toward downtown Raleigh. This is the second Western Blvd exit (the first one goes West, toward Cary) The Western Blvd exits are the ones after the Hillsborough street exit. Proceed about 0.8 Miles East on Western Blvd to the second light and take a right onto Gorman Street. Go about 1.3 miles to the second traffic light and take a right onto Avent Ferry. There's a strip mall behind Courtney's restaurant. Take the first driveway on the left, about 150 feet from the intersection. Luna's Pizza is directly ahead in the strip mall. Go in, and proceed to the back, and up the stairs to a large table set and waiting for you.

MINUTES OF W3YOZ FOWLFEST by Dick Wilder, K3DI

The annual fowlfest and joint PVRC and NCDXA meeting was again hosted by Marty, W3YOZ near Chruchton south of Annapolis on Saturday August 16th. Festivities started at noon with food, chatting, and plenty of that good BBQ chicken.

Briefly, the PVRC meeting highlighted that a slate of officers will be presented at the September meeting and nominations will be accepted from the floor. Rich displayed another proposal modification to the club logo; a logo that uses an outline map background. Andy, W3XE, suggested that PVRC should send representatives to the FAR meetings. It was suggested that a list of hot contests (ones PVRC wants to push) should be developed and listed in the Newsletter.

Attendees that signed the join sign-in sheet were: K1DQV, K1HTV, K1MU, N1KC [and mother], W1LRZ, W1LZZ, W2GG, W2YE, WB2BZR, AJ3M/JE2UFU, K3ANS, K3CHP, K3DI, K3KZ, K3OSX, K3ZB/JH1NBN, K3XZ, K3ZO, KA3TGY, KE3Q, KP3C [and daughter], N3FZB, N3HSA, N3MIL, N3RR, N3XLW, ND3A, NE3H, NV3V, W3AZ, W3AZD, W3BY, W3CQH, W3FRG, W3GN, W3KN, W3LPL, W3MR, W3UR, W3XE, W3YOZ, WB3ANE, WF3J, WG3U, WR3Z, WV3B, AC4OS, K4JAB, KB4FAS, N4QQ, WB4NFO, WC4B [and daughter].

REPORT OF SECOND ANNUAL VHF++ DAY by Brian Skutt, ND3F (with roster comments by K3MM)

On Saturday, 23 August, from noon until dark, ND3F hosted the 2nd annual picnic and VHF work day at his home in Ellicott City, MD.

Attending were:

W3TMZ (Jack--retired keeper of the W3VD beacons)
K1RZ (Dave--perennial single op winner),
ND3A (Rob--HF DX-peditioner and VHF rover),
WR3Z (Barry--VHF rover and HF contestester),
K3MM (Tyler--2M op @ K3MQH, WRTC-96 participant),
N3KTV (Jim--222 MHz op @ K3MQH)
K2UOP/8 (Tom--from WV--perennial single op winner)
WI2T (Jeff--microwave op, rover, and the RF Connection connection)
N3YDT (Jim--also RFC, working on 1296/2304 systems),
W3PO (Pat--indoor antennas so far),
K8OQL (Jerry--just got new 2300' site in FM09)
NF3I (Scott--Univ. of MD)
ND3F (Brian--rover)
N3SLN (Adam--junior op at N3IQ)
K6LEW (Owen--EME, rover, and C3I antennas, @K8GP),
N3OPM (Dan--KW+ on 144/432)
W3EKT (Ed--rover, super system fixer, past op @K3MQH)
W3IP (Mike--multiop, microwave systems, 10' dish @ 100'
KC3VO (Bob--BIG RF amps and motorcycle rover)
KA3TCC (Tom--still working on getting QSLs returned)
WG3R (Robbie--10 GHz for a nickel)
AA3NM (Steve--"radar Gunn" and son)
WA0QII (Rod--CA Microwaver with serious experience)
W3CQH (Howard--getting new towers soon),

and maybe one or two more who didn't sign in! Jerry and Tom came from Romney, WV, a two hour drive! This activity counted as a PVRC meeting, and several needed it to meet membership / contest requirements.

Interesting technical presentations included: Rod, WA0QII 5.7 GHz systems, and microwave operations/antennas, also laser demos. Robbie, WG3R 10 GHz wideband systems using Radio Shack parts Tyler, K3MM testing and alignment of 10 GHz and 24 GHz systems Ed, W3EKT general show and tell stuff.

ND3F's spouse provided food; like last year the brownies and cookies disappeared. As a result of the closely inspected and well cooked hamburger patties, ND3A remarked that he had heard that E-coli was a new form of VHF propagation (tongue in cheek remark of the day...).

Most of the written material, provided by W3EKT, ND3F, sponsor SHF microwave, C3I antennas, ARR, OAL, and others, went to good homes.

At least eight 10 GHz systems were tested, using the now standard frequencies 10.250, 10.350, and 10.280 depending on whether 30 Mhz or 100 MHz IFs are used. Several of the big wheels built at last years session are still in operation!

NW MEETING MINUTES - AUGUST 19, 1997 by Tyler Stewart, K3MM

In attendance were members: K3MM, W3EKT, W3XE/m, N5OKR, W9LT, and N3HBX.

Reports from the Fowl-fest indicated a good time was had by all, as usual - even the ones that had to push N3RR's boat (again!). W3XE commented that PVRC should have 2 representatives to the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR). FAR meetings are held in Takoma Park, MD and in Northern VA. W9LT suggested resumption of meeting announcements, listings, etc., in Autocall.

Member activities: N5OKR has a new job at Fort Meade and is looking for new QTH. N3HBX is rebuilding his VHF/UHF station with an increase of power in mind. W9LT plans to move back to Indiana soon. His QTH is for sale, with towers/antennas if wanted. He also has a Force 12 4 el 20 meter beam on a 30 ft boom for sale.

K3MM has been working on multiple VHF/microwave projects for K3MQH including a new 2 meter stack of M2 long-boom yagi's, and Gunplexers for 10 and 24 Ghz. He decided to use Force 12 yagi's on his new tower, with the first pair of 20 and 40 meter yagi's due to arrive in a few weeks. He has been looking for a possible replacement for NW Regional Chairman. N5OKR enthusiastically volunteered to take the position once things settle down a bit for him.

PVRC CONTEST ACTIVITY FOR SEPTEMBER by Tyler Stewart K3MM

Even if you don't actively participate in these upcoming events, you can help out fellow members by giving them contacts or submitting your score for Potomac Valley Radio Club where noted.

September VHF QSO Party - 9/13 1800Z to 9/15 0300Z

Many PVRC members are heavily involved in the VHF and up contests and could use your QSO(s) to boost their scores - even on FM. The usual FM frequencies are 52.525, 146.55/58, 223.5, and 446.000. Exchange is just your grid square. You can work each station once per band per grid square, so if you are mobile (known as "rovers" in the VHF world), you can start all over as soon as you move into another grid square!

WAEDC Contest (Worked All Europe) - 9/13 through 9/14 - 48 hours

A very popular contest which has club competition! If you participate, please be sure and mark your log for Potomac Valley Radio Club and be sure and submit it. Note that in the past we've lost position due to the fact that some sent in their logs marked only "PVRC". Please spell it out as above so we can get one listing up near the top!

CQWW RTTY DX Contest - 9/27 through 9/28 - 48 hours

If you have RTTY capability, you can help out other PVRC members in this contest, as you can work anyone for points. A large contingent of PVRC operators will activate the W3LPL Mega-Multi station for this one and could use your QSO on all bands! Be sure and offer a QSY to other bands to maximize the effort.

North American Sprint Contests

While these haven't been real popular with PVRC members, these 4 hour contests can be a good warmup for the fall season. The long exchange and special QSY rules make it a very challenging exercise.

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT CQWW by Rich Boyd, KE3Q

I've been chatting on packet with N3RR about the CQWW phone '96 results. We're comparing notes and he suggested I forward our messages to the Newsletter editor to edit into an article, if he so chooses. It's kind of an analysis thing, very simple, uninvolved, so maybe it'd make interesting reading for some.

Also, N3RR and I noted the long list of stations who were single op assisted. It seems to us, without checking past years, that the number of ops entering the SOA category has dramatically increased.

Thoughts on multipliers verses rate. I think it's probably better to have a really world class antenna system to "run" with than a world class mult antenna to work mults with. In other words, an 80-100' tower with 48' boom stacked monobanders for 20/15/10 and a good single 3-el 40 on that tower (like at 100' rather than lower, in the case of 40) would probably produce consistently higher scores than single high monobanders at 150-200'. If you can run Europe hour after hour you will run up a big QSO total, and many, many of the mults will come to you, including some who ONLY go around answering CQs and never take a frequency and call CQ themselves. The tradeoff is that you will MISS some mults who are calling CQ somewhere.

N3RR's single op assisted scores are an interesting benchmark because they pretty much represent how many mults you will work if you work every spot that comes out during the contest weekend. That is, every spot that's a new mult. Bill generally goes after them all, at the sacrifice of running. Some guys who have a good run going will let the new mult spots go by, won't go chasing them. It's an interesting tradeoff to make and sometimes makes you squirm in the chair seeing these mults come on, but knowing many will have big pileups to break, versus staying on your run frequency and racking up QSOs, with the occasionally HZ or V85 calling in for a new mult.

Back to the antenna thought: Really world class monobanders at a reasonable height of 100' or less are probably the most important antennas in the contesters' arsenal, because they're the ones you "run" with. And, they'll be plenty good enough to break the pileups too, most of the time. For those handful of mults for which you wish the antenna was 200' high, don't worry about it, they will mean little in your final score, will mean a lot less than the 100-plus QSOs per hour you can run. The goal is that when you're running Europe you want to have a signal in Europe as big as W3LPL's. Don't worry about it if W3LPL gets through first call on 20 when Macao is spotted, and you might call for 10 minutes without getting through. Run instead.

HOME BREW by John Sherrick, W3HVQ

Wish you guys could all experience this. The 4-1000A amplifier that I put together between the ARRL contests this year is out of the rack tonight. Its out on a low table and top and rear panels are off. The new band-switch to go in is laying there in place. The old one, having put up a good fight against arcing but losing the battle, has been cut out of the

circuits with side cutters.

Its 8:21 PM and don't have any meetings, choir practice, or bowling. I'm not TDY for the company. I've got some worn out blue jeans on, my soldering iron is laying here like a colt 45, and I'm feeling good! Ready to install this big switch, which has five times the amount of ceramic and air spacing as the old switch.

It has taken months to locate the new bandswitch... which was found at a long long table full of just plain junk at the Timonium Hamfest. It was the ceramic parts only, but last night I finished building a frame for it complete with ten homemade detents.

I don't think there's anything more satisfying and relaxing in this world than to take a bunch of hamfest junk and make something out of it! Maybe I'm getting old and sentimental, but I think it beats any other form of ham radio.

Just thought I'd send this out to encourage you guys to get out the junk and start putting it together in some way, shape, or form. Its fun!! 73
(From a packet message to PVRC dated 21 Aug.)

FOR SALE

Rohn 25 tilt-over hinge assembly which makes a tilt-over tower from a standard tower. It is with winch and in good condition. Also, 70 feet of RG-333/U Prodelin 50 ohm jacketed hardline brand new with type N male connectors. Call Glenn at 717-774-1728 or via packet K3WSZ>NE3H (Note: If not sold by the 13th you can probably see the goodies as you attend Glenn's open house in New Cumberland, PA. - editor)

PVRC TEAM SCORE - NAQP CW by Tyler Stewart, [\[email protected\]](#)

Here's the final tally for the Potomac Valley Radio Club Team

K3MM	205,155
N4AF	146,780
K4MA	117,012
N4CW	102,460
NE3H	45,472
Total	616,879

NEW TOWER REGS IN PG COUNTY by Fred Laun, K3ZO

New Tower Regs in P. G. Count The July 18 evening news on CTV Cable Channel (15A) in Southern Prince Georges County showed P. G. County Councilor Jim Estep standing below a new 150-foot cellular telephone tower somewhere in a rural part of P. G. County. While admitting that the tower was completely legal, he fulminated against the company that put it up for not consulting the neighbors beforehand, and announced that he would introduce new tower legislation in the County Council soon. CTV's reporter closed by saying many of the people the station talked to in the neighborhood were pleased with the new tower, hoping it would improve their cell phone service, which had been spotty in that area.

FAR-FEST SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH

The "Gaithersburg Hamfest" will be on September 7th at the Montgomery County Agriculture Center (Fairgrounds) in Gaithersburg. I-270 to

Montgomery Village Ave exit. Talk-in 146.955- 443.400+ and 146.52. Gates open at 6AM and commercial building at 8 AM. Tailgate \$15 per 10 ft space which requires one general admission ticket . (Ad does not state general admission price.) Drawing at 11:30 AM. IAmateur Exams on-site at 9 AM
vy Laurel VEC's.

For information: Mary Morris, N4TCI, [\[email protected\]](#), 703 971 3905

PVRC REFERENCES (This page will be updated and included every issue)

PVRC Officers

PRESIDENT	KE3Q	RICH BOYD	(301) 464-8014	
VICE PRES	K3MM	TYLER STEWART	(301) 414-5444	
SECRETARY	N3OC	BRIAN MCGINNESS	(301) 652-6768	
TREASURER	N3KTV	JIM HORTON	(301) 258-9731	
HISTORIAN	K3SA	STEVE AFFENS	(301) 774-0558	

PVRC Charter Members:

W3GRF (SK), W4AAV (SK), W4KFC (SK), N0FFZ (SK), W4LUE, W7YS, VP2VI (W0DX), W3IKN, W4KFT.

PacketCluster Contest/DX System (MHz):

K3NA	Frederick MD	145.630
W3LPL	Glenwood MD	145.590 441.250
KE3Q	Bowie MD	145.570 445.375
N3RR	Rockville MD	145.510 441.325
N4OHE	Mt.Weather VA	145.710 440.925
N4SR	Woodbridge VA	145.630 *
WR3L	Baltimore MD	145.610 440.950
K4FJ	Mt. Vernon VA	145.770 *
K3MQH	S Mountain PA	145.630

This system is sponsored by the Potomac Valley DX Spotting Network except for nodes marked with "*" are independently funded by each SYSOP..

PVRC on Internet.

PVRC web site: <http://www.pvrc.org> by K3SA.
NC (N4AF) web <http://www.pagesz.net/~pvrc>
PVRC reflector: [\[email protected\]](#) to join.
[\[email protected\]](#) to post.

Dues are by donation. The mandatory \$10 dues have been discontinued. So please send your donation - hopefully at least \$10 - to Jim Horton, N3KTV, 8527 Calypso Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20879-1522. Make checks payable to PVRC. Thank you.

Newsletter Editor: Dick Wilder, K3DI, 913 Shore Acres Rd, Arnold, MD 21012-1724. The communication ports are: 410-757-6706, FAX/modem 410-757-6720, [\[email protected\]](#), and the DXcluster. The deadline for articles is Monday, two weeks before the central meeting.

The Central Meeting is always the second Monday except during the summer. The central meeting generally alternates between the following two locations. Check the calendar on page 1.

THE VIENNA VA LOCATION is at the Public Library route 123 outside the Beltway.. Take the Beltway to VA Route 123 South (Chain Bridge Road at this point). Cross over Route 7 and pass Tyson's Corner. On right will be

JKJ Chevrolet. Continue on 123 into Vienna where 123 becomes Maple Avenue. After passing Beulah Road (on right with light), look for Park Street (about 3 blocks). Park Street has a light. The Library will be along one block on the left, just before Center Street. Entrance to the library parking lot is a left off 123 Maple. The lot is just before the library itself. Alternatively, if you take I-66 off the beltway, and exit at Nutley Street toward Vienna, you will run into Maple Ave. A right turn takes you into town. The library will be on your RIGHT just after Center Street. Going this way, you will not have to make a left turn into the parking lot across heavy double lanes traffic.

THE TEMPLE HILLS MD LOCATION is at The Church of the Nativity (Episcopal), Route 5, Temple Hills, MD at 7:30 PM. Take the Capital Beltway to Exit 7-A. Head south on Maryland Route 5 (Branch Ave) toward Waldorf. Immediately after entering Branch Ave you will come to a stoplight, which is Manchester Dr. Turn right on Manchester Dr. In the middle of the block on the left hand side, you will notice the Church of the Nativity sign next to the church entrance. Go up the drive to the top and park in the church's parking lot.

Coming soon. A list of regions and chair person(s). Here are some notes that will be updated and formatted. Please send corrections and additions. editor

NW Ty Stewart K3MM 301-414-5444 [\[email protected\]](#)
3rd Tues, Legends Rest in Hampton Inn, Frederick, MD

NC Howie Hoyt N4AF.. Meets first week monthly.

PA Steve Cutshall K3TZV 717 763 0462 First Thurs

Eastern Shore Brian McGinnes N3OC 301 652 6768
[\[email protected\]](#)

Rappahannock Jack O/Mara W4NF 703 680 4106 and C. Deel W4CE 703 491 0841
[\[email protected\]](#)

Central VA Bob Morris, W4MYA 804 457 9011 [\[email protected\]](#)

Tidewater VA Don Lynch W4ZYT 804 486 0728 [\[email protected\]](#)

PVRC BWI weekly breakfast Wed at 7:30 AM at Basil's Deli Port on Elkrdige Landing Rd, Howard Leake-W6AXX

Over the Hill (OTH) montly luncheon day and QTH floats. Sept host is Ben AA4XU 703-534-4740. Oct is W3XE .

NE WR3L, WV W9LT, SW Va K4IQ, Central KE3Q